

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

01-348

From: Surgtec@aol.com
To: Mike Powell
Date: 11/6/02 6:53PM
Subject: Echostar and Hughes merger

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DEC 02 2002

Dear Mr. Powell.

I am writing this letter to express my opinion of the proposed merger between Hughes and Echostar. I will start by saying up front that I am a subscriber to Direct TV whose service would greatly increase as a result of this merger. I live in Lumberton, Texas which is just north of Beaumont and Port Arthur area. I have several reasons to want this to happen one of which is the current plan by Direct TV to have local stations Broadcast cover about 83 percent of the state of Texas and My area wouldn't be covered. If the merger is approved 100 percent of Texas would be covered. this plan would also bring affordable broadband Internet service to my area which is not available to me now.

If you are using the line that I have heard from Time Warner (the only cable company in the area) that it would create a monopoly I don't agree with this since I see the two companies involved as actually competing with the cable companies and not so much as each other. I actually feel if you want to look at a monopoly in action MAYBE IT IS TIME WE LOOKED AT THEM AND IN PARTICULAR TIME WARNER.

I got satellite because I was tired of their way of acting like they are the only game in town.

It really is time to level out the playing field for those of us who don't want cable but if we want locals we have to take their service or have an unsightly rabbit ear type antenna in my home. I urge you today to take another look at things from our point of view and approve this plan it really is time for a fair playing table between cable and satellite

Thank you so much for your time

Charlie R East, Jr., W. Walton Rd. #8
Lumberton Texas 77657

409-751-5492

From: Nestor Obie
To: Mike Powell
Date: 11/18/02 7 54AM
Subject: Against Echostar - Direct TV merger

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November 14, 2002

Chairman Michael K. Powell
Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy
Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Commissioner Kevin J. Martin
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20544

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20544

Dear Mr. Powell

At present time Direct TV/PR Latin America serves Puerto Rico Market. In Puerto Rico USA we are not allowed to subscribe to Direct TV USA. The programming of Direct TV Latin America (Cisneros family from Venezuela) is intended for Spanish speaking persons and mainly transmits South American programming or US programs translated to Spanish

I have requested to subscribe to Direct TV USA but they explain that that is impossible, as Puerto Rico is served exclusively by Direct TV Latin America. Puerto Rico is part of the territory of the United States and we are all Americans. We should have the right to received the Continental USA version of Direct TV.

I read about a merger between DISH TV-DIRECT TV, Echostar and Hughes. If the FCC allows the merger then they will apply the same rule. We will lose the ability to receive exclusive USA programming thru DISH TV as we do now.

I respectfully oppose such merger. Also request freedom of choice to recieve the same channel line up as Direct TV USA.

Signed
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